

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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DALLAS, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1937

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100th Anniversary of D. L. Moody's Birth

On February 5th, 100 years ago, D. L. Moody was born. Through the blessing of God he was used directly in winning to Christ more souls than any other man in modern times, possibly more than any other man who ever lived. A great contemporary writer said that "Moody looked in the faces of more men than any other man who ever lived and decreased the population of Hell by a million souls." Gladstone, the great British statesman, said that Abraham Lincoln and D. L. Moody were the two greatest Americans. An unlettered man, a special anointing of the Holy Spirit was His greatest qualification for service. Besides the multitude of his converts, Moody left the Moody Bible Institute, the Moody Memorial Church in Chicago (formerly the Illinois Street Church) two schools for boys and girls at Northfield, Massachusetts, and many, many Y. M. C. A. and church buildings for which he raised the money, Bible institutes in Scotland and elsewhere, missions which he established and even daily prayer meetings which he began which are still running.

The following interesting facts and dates are given about Moody:

An Outline Of Moody's Life

He was born at Northfield, Massachusetts, February 5, 1837; began business career in Boston, 1854; born again in a Boston shoe store, 1855; admitted to church membership, 1856; removed to Chicago, 1856. He established "North Market Hall" Sunday School, 1858; yielded to God's call to full-time Christian work, 1860; married Emma C. Revell, 1862; organized "Illinois Street Church," 1863; visited England, 1867. He secured the services of Ira D. Sankey, 1870, received special anointing of the Holy Spirit, 1871; held the first extended British campaign, 1873-1875; led American evangelistic campaigns, 1875-1877. He established Northfield Seminary, 1879; established Mt. Hermon School, 1881; conducted a second campaign in Great Britain, 1881-1884; organized the Chicago Evangelization Society, afterward the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, 1886. His third campaign in Great Britain was in 1891; he visited Palestine, 1892; held the Columbian Exposition evangelistic campaign, Chicago, 1893; founded the Bible Institute Colportage Association, 1894; last evangelistic campaign, Kansas City, Mo., November, 1899. He was stricken with last illness, November 16, 1899; said, "Earth is receding; heaven approaching; God is calling me," at Northfield, December 22, 1899, and passed into glory. "He being dead yet speaketh" — *Watchman Examiner*.

"Someone sent me The Sword of the Lord and I am elated. I get so much good reading out of it. I am inclosing \$1.00 and four names of children I believe will receive it gladly, as I did."

"Mrs. May G. Chestnutridge, Mo."

"We certainly liked the sermon on Backsliders, wish you could have a sermon like that in each paper as we enjoy them more than anything else."

"Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Petersburg, Illinois"

POSTAL CARD TELLS OF HAPPY CONVERSION

WHY?

Clarence Edwin Flynn

I saw a woman lying on a stair,
Head down, flies crawling on her face and hair,
While lodgers came and went, nor looked at all.
She was a masterpiece of Alcohol.

I saw an old man lying on a bed,
Helpless for life, his weary old wife said,
His hip was broken in a needless fall—
Achievement credited to Alcohol.

I saw a man in death's stark whiteness lie,
A bullet through his heart. I heard the cry
Of wife and children sensing hunger's thrall—
Work of the all-efficient Alcohol.

I saw a lovely girl, clean-faced and fine,
But foolish, plied by men with gin and wine.
Till self-respect had tottered to its fall.
Another Magdalene. Hail, Alcohol!

I saw these things, you may have seen them, too.
The world is saturated with them through and through.
And there are those who claim it has a place—
A drug that does that to the human race.

Last Thursday morning came another of those happy messengers we have learned to expect frequently. It is like the Shepherd coming home with the one-hundredth sheep that was lost, saying to his friends and neighbors, "Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost." Or like the woman who gathered her loved ones to see the restored piece of silver saying, "Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost." It was a postcard that came telling of another happy conversion, evidently from the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" The decision slip from that booklet was copied on the post card as follows:

"January 20, 1937

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Realizing that I am a sinner, and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know.

"L. D.
Route 4
Athens, Texas."

The name was that of a man or boy which we do not feel free to print without his consent. Hundreds have been saved through the great number of these booklets (about 150,000 copies) distributed in all parts of the world in three languages (English, Spanish and Armenian).

If you want a copy of this booklet for yourself or loved one, it will be sent free upon request.

Money Under False Pretenses

It has come to my notice that some people are advertising *The Rice-Smith Debate*, or *The Rice-Smith Discussion* and using my name to sell the booklet. I do not recall that I ever saw Mr. Smith, and I have had no debate or discussion with him of any kind, either publicly or privately so that anything he sells under such a

name is a misnomer. If it contains anything from my pen, it was used without permission, lifted from *The Sword of the Lord* or other of my writings.

Any booklet sold under such a name is a fraud, calculated to deceive. There has never been any *Rice-Smith Discussion*. Any seller of such a book obtains money under false pretenses and any purchaser expecting the booklet to be a debate or religious discussion between me and any other man will be disappointed.

FLOODS! --- DOES GOD CARE?

(Sermon preached Sunday night, January 31, 1937, by Pastor John R. Rice, Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle, Dallas, Texas. Stenographically reported.)

Tonight as I speak about the flood, I remind you there is coming a great flood, the judgment on this world and the wrath of God. You must face God. You will meet Him in peace or meet Him in wrath.

Will you pray with me?

PRAYER: Our Father, give peace tonight in the hearts of sinners. Oh, have Thy way. Convict sinners. Let me speak as boldly as I ought to. We pray that men who are lost tonight, who would go to Hell if they should die tonight—Oh, Lord, hear us as we pray—that they may be saved tonight. We pray that yonder where the flood has swept down the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys, in Louisville, Kentucky, in Cincinnati, Ohio, in Paducah and in New Madrid and other towns on down toward Memphis, oh God, we pray as they go back to find the dead and to take the stores that have been ruined by water, houses been wrecked, oh God, let them turn their hearts to Thee in this time of trouble. Right tonight as the rain beats down and the flood waters lap around the houses of many a poor farmer, where many thousands of men work up and down behind the big dikes that are about to break tonight. Be merciful, move hearts, show them

that you care, we pray in Jesus' name. And now let me preach with boldness. Give me the fire of God and let people know they need a refuge from the storm and find it in Thee. For Christ's sake, Amen.

This morning's Times Herald I am reading to you—

"Flood Fatalities Reach 425

"120,000 Work On Levees To Avert Crisis

"Earth Tremors Add New Peril to Mississippi Valley Scourge; Cairo Almost Deserted; Damage Passes \$400,000,000"

"Unless the billion-dollar levee system from Cairo to New Orleans is made to hold back the water when the Ohio's unprecedented torrent swells the Mississippi, the same horror of death, misery and destruction will come to the South." (That means the flood is not over.)

"Terror, disease and the untold misery of thousands forced to flee their homes has already begun doom that impends on the Mississippi."

"Troops were forcing complete evacuation of Paducah where the water stood more than six feet throughout the city."

"More than 30,000 persons already are homeless at Evansville and the property loss exceeds \$15,000,000."

(I passed through that town and Paducah last January.)

"The Indiana homeless are num-

bered above 100,000 and 13 counties of the southern district have been inundated.

"Louisville strode into the fearful task of seeking additional victims in buildings that tottered on crumbling foundations. Mayor Miller set the death toll as not more than 200, but others feared a total of double that figure."

"More than 220,000 persons in Louisville—two-thirds of the population—have been driven from their homes."

I cannot take time to read more but that is the heaviest disaster in the form of river flood that ever hit the American continent. That is important. Only in 1927 there was a terrible, disastrous flood and before that in 1925 another not quite so bad. And now in this year, 1937 it is worse than ever. It is the worst the world has ever seen, particularly in America, in property damage, in loss of life. The Galveston flood was of shorter duration, involved fewer people, less suffering, though there were more people suddenly killed.

Now then, does God care? Here is ceaseless heartache. As you hear the dropping of the rain on the roof, I remind you there are a million and a quarter people who had to run from their homes, some in barns, some in school houses, some with their kinspeople, many in tents, others camped out on the roads in the rain; some left behind their dead. More than one man escaped to leave wife and children drowned in the flood. I wonder if

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NOW IS YOUR CHANCE

Of the thousands of readers of *The Sword of the Lord* there are hundreds of you who long for your neighbors, relatives and friends to try this paper. You have written to tell us so. You have passed your copy of *The Sword of the Lord* to a limited circle. Great numbers of you have subscribed for others, wanting them to receive the same blessings you got from *The Sword of the Lord*. And hundreds of them have been most grateful to you who introduced them to this paper. Now they are regular subscribers, and frequently letters come telling us how they thank God someone sent them the paper.

If you want others to share the blessings of *The Sword of the Lord*, now is your chance. We are making again a special trial offer of ten weeks for ten cents.

Most of these trial subscriptions should come in clubs of ten or more. Make out a list of ten friends, relatives or acquaintances, whether Christian workers or unsaved ones, and send their names and correct addresses with ten cents for each name. Each one will get *The Sword of the Lord*, mailed to his door for ten weeks. It will only cost you \$1.00, and ten separate families will have this gospel paper with its sermons, devotional articles, Bible studies and appeals for Christ, coming regularly to their homes.

The trial subscription will more likely be a blessing if you show your neighbors or your friends your own paper and tell them about it. You might ask them if they would like to read it for ten weeks. Many of them would be glad to give you the dime for their ten weeks' subscription if you would send it off for them. Send in any number of trial subscriptions, ten weeks for ten cents each. But if you send ten or more we are glad to give you free the fine book by Dr. C. I. Scofield, *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth*. This book of ten chapters will help you greatly in understanding the Bible. It has blessed thousands. It is nicely printed, with art paper covers, and is printed by Fleming H. Revell, a great publisher of the highest type of Christian literature. We offer this book in appreciation for your help in getting ten new trial subscriptions, and because it is really very fine Bible teaching that will help you understand the great principal divisions of the Bible, dispensational teaching, etc. When you send ten or more trial subscriptions at ten cents each for

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

"BEHOLD THE MAN!"

Was Jesus Christ God, man, or both? Come Sunday night to the Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle and "Behold the Man," the Man who was beaten, the Man who was scorned, the Man who was crucified, the Faultless Man, the Man who is the Son of God! An evangelistic message. Come praying.

Sunday morning we will observe the Lord's Supper with sermon on "Ye Are the Light of the World." Junior and Intermediate departments of the Sunday School meet at 9:30 in special opening exercises upstairs. Brother Strohs leads singing. Be there on time. Children under nine meet on the first floor of Sunday School building, 9:45. Young people and adults meet together in the auditorium, 9:45.

FLOODS ... DOES GOD CARE?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

you realize the torment of mind of the people whose homes are gone, some homes washed away down the river, some whose business is utterly wiped out. They are marooned in houses, in barns, trees or on levees out yonder away where they cannot be found. Some have been for days and days and days.

A day or two ago they found one group of 343 people on the second floor of a school house in a small town. They had had nothing to eat or drink for three days and nights — that entire group. Nobody knows how many have been killed.

I want to impress on you if I can that the human suffering involved is enormous, and the end is not yet. It may be only begun. It may be that this flood that is already the greatest of its kind in America may be four times as great before the water — swelling, billions of tons of water — sweeping its way down the muddy Mississippi, gets through the states of Mississippi and Louisiana and empties into the gulf. We do not know what horrors of death and destruction will follow them. Besides that, whole water systems are wiped out. Doctors cannot get along the muddy roads — not only mud, but water. Influenza has now begun as it never had before. Pneumonia will take tolls, doubtless, in the next few weeks; will take the lives of hundreds daily because of exposure of this flood.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD and of John R. Rice

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Does God Know and Care?

Does God know? If God knows, does He care? Is it anything to God if tonight some child clings to the skirts of his mother and can get no food? Does God care if somewhere upstairs there are people looking out the windows at the rain beating down on the muddy waters with despair and fear clutching their hearts as they wait for a boat to come and rescue them? The house totters, and in a moment they may be swept away to a watery grave and eternity. Does God care about that? That is a serious proposition and we ought to face it, and we will face it from the Bible tonight. What about the flood? Did God have anything to do with it? Does He care? What does He mean? What results can we expect to come from a thing like that? You pray while I speak.

I will give you a message from God's Word. I say frankly there is no way to settle this except by the Bible. No logic, none of your philosophy will settle this question. No matter how smart you are, or what you thought up, that won't settle it. The Word of God will settle it.

God Himself Brings Flood And Death

I read to you from Genesis 6: 15 about the greatest flood the world ever saw. It also was a flood where people were killed. The population of all the world, probably reaching millions that time, were all killed in a few short hours or days at most. Let's see what God said about that. In Genesis 6, verse 17,

"And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die."

Now, let's see, God talks to Noah and He said, "Behold, I, even I," (God said He did it) "do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the

breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die."

Now then the Bible is a straightforward and forthright book, and we need not dodge it. This Bible plainly said about that flood that God did it. God said, "I bring it." He did it on purpose in order to kill people! *He did it on purpose.* That is the plan of God. If God is the same God now, and if men are the same kind of men now, and if God reacts to sin like He did in Bible times, then God brought a flood on the Mississippi Valley and God knew it would kill people, and God knew there would be a million and a quarter people tonight homeless and God knew about the finding of those 425 decaying bodies. Some they couldn't tell whether they were white or black, and will burn on a funeral pyre and not try to bury them at all as they did down at Galveston. (My father worked in rescue work after the Galveston flood). If God did that, and God planned that, and God brought this flood, if He is still the same God and nature is still under His control and He still feels about sin like He did in Bible times, THEN GOD BROUGHT THESE FLOODS! If that be truly the hand of God, and the voice of God, men are foolish not to listen to what God means by it. It is the hand of God!

Let me read that verse again: "And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of water upon the earth" — what for? — "to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and everything that is in the earth shall die." The Word of God then tells about the flood that came. God is back of it. God brings floods. Now I know ahead of time there are those who say, "Oh, no. God had nothing to do with that." We hear it on every hand. Somebody goes out here who has a few drinks and drives his car into a telephone pole and kills himself, somebody says, "God had nothing to do with it." Whenever some kind of devilment causes disaster to overtake them, some people say, "God had nothing to do with it." When there is sickness in the home or a person dies, they say it is just the laws of nature and God had nothing to do with it! Silly, worldly, Godless people, you do not know your Bible, and your God is not my God. The Lord says, "Behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and everything that is in the earth shall die." And He said it is for the express purpose of killing people, "to destroy all flesh" and "Everything that has breath in the earth shall die." That was the plan of God.

The God of Love Is Also the God of Wrath

People like to talk about the God of love. They do not like to talk about God who is angry with sin. They like the Scripture that says, "God is love," but they do not like the Scripture that says "Our God is a consuming fire." They do not like the Scripture that says, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." They do not like the Scripture that tells how people "will cry out for the rocks and the mountains to fall upon them and hide them from the face of the Lamb."

Some modern preachers know so much, they look with scorn on the prayers of David in the Psalms. "The imprecatory Psalms," they say, "could not be perfectly inspired." They believe in only "progressive revelation" — that David just went as far as he knew, and later God taught men better! No! No! I say to you, God is the same God and hates sin today and must punish sin today like He did before. The floods are of God! THE FLOODS ARE OF GOD!

You say, "That is old fashioned." Yes, I know, and floods are old fashioned, too, if you want to know, and sin is old fashioned, and judgment is old fashioned, and God is old fashioned and Heaven and Hell! And facing God is what you must do even if it does sound old fashioned. Death is old fashioned, but death came up and down the Ohio Valley and men die just the same as Cain the murderer died and went out to face his sins. And men die just the same as

righteous Abel died and went on to Heaven. They die like the rich man died when in Hell he lifted up his eyes. That is old fashioned. They die like the beggar Lazarus, a saved man, when the angels carried his soul into the presence of God. Men die, and death is old fashioned! My preaching is old fashioned. The Bible is old fashioned! You will never find any new fangled remedy for floods nor any new explanation of them.

God brought the flood. God brings them now. God brought this one. Therefore we had better beware and take heed what God said. The Scripture is clear about that. In these floods men die by an act of God.

God has done it more than once. God sent the flood in the days of Noah that swept over the world. Millions of people died, they died with gurgling and grasping for breath, died after they had clung to trees from the mountain tops, they died trying to rescue wives and babies, *they died unprepared to die.* They died wishing they could live. They died seeing that they had played the fool in not getting in the ark. And God looked down on it and knew about it, and did it on purpose. And the same God brings floods today.

Don't say God is not a God of goodness. Do you think you are better than God? Do you think you are fit to judge God? Can anyone pass judgment on the Almighty God that made the earth, and made the water and made people? You had better be going pretty slow about saying what God ought to do or ought not to do. Really I don't think you know much about it. Until you make a world and create a race of people who kill your son sent to save them, you are not in much shape to tell what God ought to do and ought not to do. God sends floods. God sent this one.

That isn't the only one. Turn to Exodus the 14th chapter the case of the crossing of the Red Sea. Now the flood that came back yonder was a terrible flood. Here is a flood very much like the Galveston flood in Texas in 1900. At least, it was sea water with which people were drowned. The Children of Israel were crossing the Red Sea, the water stood up on either side. Pharaoh followed with his army. He said, "We will get them, boys. Come on, right on through. If the water stayed up there for them, it will for us." Pharaoh and his army went into the bed of the Red Sea. On they went hard after the Israelites. Now read in Exodus 14:26,

"And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea," (God said, "Moses, put your hand out, I am going to do something with that water") "that the water may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen."

"And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea."

"And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them."

Again God deliberately and on purpose brought men to a sudden terrible, strangling death by drowning. Men died and God knew they would die, and God had it done deliberately and on purpose. It is God that sends floods. It is God that sends these floods and disasters. The Bible is clear, isn't it?

Turn and read in Deuteronomy 28. It is the practice of God to bring a curse on nature. God brought drouth, floods, famine. God sends war even, and does it because men sin against God.

All right, let's get this thing down here. The Bible clearly says that God sends floods. God has sent disaster as a warning. His hand is against us, and we must turn and seek God. We have already seen that the flood, therefore, is of God, and the flood is definitely because of sin.

Now I know you can get by in the courts of this land, lots of times you can. I know you can take money and may never be caught. I know many a murderer walks the streets, never indicted.

Often if he is indicted, he isn't tried, and if tried, turned loose, or if sentenced, then pardoned. There are a lot of slips between the cup and the lip in human justice. But beloved, one day there is going to be a court with no crooked lawyers, and all the witnesses will tell the truth. One day there will be a court when the angels of God will be the ministers of justice to bring people to taw, and some day God will see that men come to justice. So God who must bring sin to justice sent the Ohio and Mississippi flood. You can't get by God. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." "Be sure your sin will find you out," and that is as certain for all the nation as it is for one man. That is as certain for Dallas as for Cincinnati, Ohio, or for Louisville, Kentucky, and Memphis, Tennessee, and New Orleans, Louisiana. I say as certain as those floods and plagues, we must meet the wrath of God. Dallas must and Dallas will and individuals will! Your sin will find you out.

Floods Come Because of Violence, Bloodshed and Other Wickedness

Now let's see what the Scripture said. Back in Genesis. The Scripture says, "I am going to send this flood." Now why? Genesis chapter 6, read verses 5 to 13:

"5. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth" (You are not concerned, but God sees it) "and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

"6. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart."

"7. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them."

"8. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord."

"9. These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God."

"10. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth."

"11. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence."

Yes, you will kill 36,000 every year with drunken driving anyway. Why blame God for flood to kill a few more? What is 425 killed by the flood beside 36,000 killed last year, and a lot of them by drunken drivers, and a lot by carelessness. Don't judge God until you check up on yourselves a little bit. God knew what He was doing. God said, "The earth is full of violence. I will bring on them more violence then."

"11. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence."

"12. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth."

"13. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

God said, "I will destroy them because of violence and corruption." Now get these two facts I made stand out: first, certainly God brings floods, and the second fact is this: floods come because of sin. Floods, disaster, drouth and depression — these things and many more come because of man's sin. I say tonight the homeless, the million and a quarter people homeless, the four hundred million dollars of property damage, oh, tonight the pneumonia, and the influenza and the coming of typhoid — these things and more will follow as the flood sweeps down from the Ohio and into the Mississippi, threatening the property, homes and lives of millions. That would not be happening but our sin has angered God and sin has brought the judgment of God — unremitted sin, the sin of violence, the sin of unpunished crime, murder, innocent blood that hasn't been paid for. I didn't know about this flood when I preached two weeks ago that as certain as we didn't find the Mattson boy's kidnapper and murderer, the anger of God would collect in blood from America. The anger of

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FLOODS ... DOES GOD CARE?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

God will bring strikes, violence and bloodshed and war. God said, "There is no way to cleanse the land of blood that is shed therein but by the blood of him that shed it." Blood and death are God's way of bringing America to taw, saying, "I will make you pay for your violence, for your Godlessness. I will make you pay for forgetting God, for forgetting church, for forgetting tithing, I will make you pay for forgetting soul winning, for forgetting to pray, forgetting the Bible." God says, "I will collect blood for sin." That is what the flood means. Sin brings trouble. Sin brings famine and disaster. Sin brings breakdown of health. Sin brings death—physical death. Sin brings a curse on the nation. So it is here.

"If Thou Wilt Not Harken . . . The Lord Shall Smite Thee"

Read again in Deuteronomy 28 what the Lord said sin would bring.

"But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

That is verse 15. Now look at verse 22 and following:

"The Lord shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish."

The curse of God because of sin! But that isn't all. I turn again to Amos and in the 4th chapter of Amos notice what God said,

"And I also have given you cleanness of teeth" (I, God says, I gave you cleanness of teeth) "in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord."

"And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered."

"So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied; yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord."

"I have smitten you" (I have, God says) "I have smitten you with blasting and mildew; when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me saith the Lord."

"I have sent among you the pestilence"—That is where your pneumonia comes from. That is where the influenza took place this past week in Dallas. That is where it comes from. God says, "I sent pestilence upon you after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses: and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord." I say it is the curse of God on sin! Definitely because of sin God brings these disasters.

Floods Rage Elsewhere: Will Dallas Escape?

All right, my friends, will Dallas escape? Do you believe Dallas is sinless? Do you believe Dallas has a clean record? I shuddered as I went out last year to the Centennial and saw how Dallas made much of beer. Then the Cen-

tennial enlisted Dallas church people by giving them a few little programs out there. Just so they paid to get in, then they could go to church out there. Baptists had a week. Other denominations had a week. Some one put up a little religious building—no special religion, yet it has the name, in order to keep preachers and church members from objecting to some of their main attractions: naked women, peep shows, gyp stands and lewdness. The Cavalcade and many exhibits were wonderful but multitudes were enticed by the most vulgar and lewd indecencies possible. Dallas went wild over the Centennial though it deliberately and obviously broke the state law and every law of decency and propriety. The police department, the District Attorney's department seem to have had a deliberate agreement with Centennial authorities not to hinder gambling, nakedness and indecency. Law enforcement officers, state and city government and the business men of Dallas sold Dallas out to sin.

Last year, 1936, we put twice as much money in banks in Dallas as the year before. Do you know how we did? We did it by inviting gamblers to prey on the innocent. We did it with harlot women encouraged to come for the Centennial, lauded to the skies. We made pictures of their naked bodies and did what we could to enflame the minds of little boys with them. In every newspaper in Dallas. We have banked the extra money and little by little selling our souls. Newspapers sold out to the liquor traffic, the city government sold out to the liquor traffic and the preachers pretty well kept their mouths shut. By bringing enough of that kind of folks here, we put more money in the bank, last year, but we were laying up a day of judgment as certain as there is a God in Heaven.

Memphis, Tennessee, has 50,000 refugees, one out of every ten with influenza. Memphis has already 30,000 with pneumonia and influenza, and they are dying, many I am sure. Listen, my friends, do you suppose Dallas will escape? I tell you the truth, one reason we don't have a great crowd tonight, and didn't have a larger crowd this morning—there is a plague in this land. Now we need not be surprised if the next two weeks tell a sad tale in Dallas.

I know Dallas is not better. I know the violence, drunken driving, lawlessness. I know the bloodshed unstopped, the sin mounting up. I know how some preachers sell out. I know how newspapers have sold out to the dirty liquor traffic for advertising money. I couldn't get an ad in Dallas papers recently when I announced I would preach on "Another Saloon Murder in Wide Open Dallas."

Sold out! You common people wanted it! You backed that kind of officers and voted for them! Put you on the jury, and you will not convict crime. And I say, the curse of God upon us is as certain as God sent floods on the Mississippi Valley, on the Pacific Coast, a freeze that killed the citrus fruit. Last year a drouth cursed the great dust bowl from Oklahoma north and another in 1934. Another is threatened this year. In the east last year there was a flood in New York state, and again this year a flood from Pittsburg down the Ohio and on down now into Tennessee, and Arkansas and Mississippi and so on. My friends, hear me, the same God in due time will smite Dallas. Now don't you worry, brother, in due time, in God's own time and way. You can't rush God.

Now you can't do that with God. It may be in February, may be next fall, but as certain as there is a God in Heaven, disaster is coming to Texas, too. It will. I don't know how. Very likely we are in deadly danger of a terrible epidemic of influenza and pneu-

monia. I don't know; I don't pretend to. It may be bloody strikes may come next in the Ford plant, in Dallas dress factories and so on. You can just put it down, these communistic agitators that plague the labor organization will be heading this way to Dallas mighty fast now. That is coming soon. I don't know whether it will be Railroad Brotherhoods, I don't know, I don't pretend it, but if the same God rules in Texas as in the Ohio River Valley, Dallas is going to get it in the neck in due time. If the same God rules in Texas as does in Cincinnati and Louisville and these towns, Dallas can't get away with violence, bloodshed, lewdness, drunkenness, day in an day out, unbelief, godlessness, no revival! You can't get by God. Dallas won't escape. I am no prophet, but you see if it doesn't happen.

These Plagues Are Sent in Mercy: God Loves Even Sinners

Here is another lesson. In a flood time, does God care? Does God care? Is the anger of God like a white hot flame that has no mercy? Does God care about the cries of little children when flood waters drift away a house and later they find, face turned down in the mud, the bodies of a mother, when her children are crying for her, the bloated body of a woman, now decaying? Does God care about that? Does God care for the misery and the grief, the trail of pneumonia? Does God care about the aches and pains? Yes, God cares about these!

My friend, I wouldn't have you think of God as hard.

Moody said one time, "I used to preach to sinners that God came behind them with a great sword trying to cut them down." Then there came a man to Chicago, just a boy preacher from England, Henry Morehouse. This boy in his absence was put up to preach. Moody didn't think he could preach. He said, "Give him two days, Thursday and Friday, and I will be back Saturday morning to Chicago and we will see." Moody got back there and said to his wife, "Did that boy preach?"

"Yes." "Well, did the people like him?" "Yes, they liked him." "Did you like him?" "I liked him very much." "What did he say?" "He said that God loves sinners."

"Well," Moody said, "I told her that was wrong. He ought to tell them that God is angry with sinners."

"But he proved by the Bible that God loves sinners. That night I went. It was on Saturday night, and he had a big crowd, and they brought their Bibles. He got up again and said, 'I preach to you again from the same text used Thursday night, and the same text used Friday night, "For God so loved the world . . ."

"And he just began in Genesis and went on through Exodus, and Leviticus and Numbers, on through Proverbs and Psalms and proved that God loved sinners. He sent His prophets because He loved them, and they stoned the prophets and sent Jesus because He loved them, and when He came they crucified Jesus. Then He sent the Holy Spirit because He loved men. And it wasn't long until my heart was all melted when I saw how God loved men, how He loved them."

"Then I had him preach Sunday night and that night the house was packed. He said he couldn't find a better text so he began again and went through the Bible again proving that God loved sinners. Then Monday night—Monday was wash day but people left their washing and he preached again on the same text that God loved men. My heart was warmed and broken up and I got to where I said, 'I will preach that God loves men.'" God does love people. Moody always preached it after that time.

Wherein then does God love these people affected by the flood? Up and down the Mississippi Valley even the death and pain and sickness and property loss, the homelessness, the cries of little children—in all that, God gets the glory. For one thing it proves to you down here in Dallas that God loves you. How many of you listen to that radio program from the flood area? How many have been list-

ening to those broadcasts? Do you know what that meant? God said, "I will let this happen, let it be on the radio and by pictures in the papers, will warn Dallas and the rest of the world." My little girl, Joan, studied the pictures and looked at the picture in the paper about the flood coming on up to people in the second story window, and one night she said, "Mama, I can't sleep thinking about the flood." And God said, "I love these people in Dallas. I don't want to bring judgment on them, some terrible plague, and sweep out 50,000 people to death in Dallas. In my mercy, I will show them they had better get ready by that report." About some man here tonight away from God, God says, "I love that man. Surely he will take warning. I am not going to blot out the whole world again. I told Noah that, but I do want to warn people in Dallas to get right." Again God calls. The other night when that earthquake tremor went through the earth in the Mississippi Valley God didn't mean it for evil. God meant it for good, for a warning. Just 425 people died in the flood. In that same area there would have been, in the same period of time, half that many to die a normal death any way. Some of those were not drowned. God meant the flood for mercy.

Don't think of God as a bitter and cruel God. God does the unusual, and God brings punishment to warn us we must not go in sin, we must get ready to meet God. It is the love of God. I know people make a joke of it, but I wish God would give us more old fashioned mothers and fathers who not only would discipline children with the razor strap or a peach tree limb or a hickory sprout, but I wish God would give us more mothers and fathers like some I have known, when dad takes his boy out in the back room, "Now, Son," and tears come in his eyes, "I am sorry. I don't want to do it," and so he says, "I have got to do it because it is right." So he whips his boy and weeps over him and hugs him. We need more fathers like God who punishes sin but loves the sinner. God looks down on the sinner, the homeless, those He is chastising, and He loves them. He seeks to win them to love and serve Him. The flood is sent in mercy.

I wish I could go up there and hold a revival in Memphis, Tennessee, go among the people and give out tracts, and weep over their sorrows and tell them I love them, and tell them how much more God loves them. I wish I could! Oh, let's pray God to send a revival of soul winning among the distressed people, to let even wrath be tempered with mercy. Even judgment is because God wants people to be saved. I trust and pray that many of them will. And it is the warning of God to those here. It is mercy, my friends. God wants you to turn and be saved while you can.

You Cannot Rightly Judge Any Act of God Except in the Light Of the Cross

There is more I want you to remember. Think of what God did for these same people before He sent the flood, lest you judge God foolishly. Remember the cross! See the dim outlines, as you look over toward the Mississippi Valley—see the dim outlines of a cross and a figure there outstretched, who died for the same sinners and prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." You can never interpret any act of God rightly until you look at it through the love of the cross. This same Jesus died for me, wept over me, prayed for me. He loves me. It is not His harshness, it is His love. Sin must be punished. He warns you and begs you to be saved today while you can. When God sends punishment for your sins, remember first He sent His Son to die for you!

God Cares For His Own During Floods

Now in this time of trouble, does God care for His own? How I wish I could bring their testimony. Only one side is covered by the radio and by newspapers. I wish I could go among the people, and ask them, "Does God care? Is He with you?" If I could, I would come back and tell stories that would

make your heart rejoice and leap for joy. They would tell me how here was a mother and father and children and their house is swept away, and one some way holds on to this, some hanging to a tree, with a prayer. And next day they find each other and behold every last one came out alive and saved! Husband and wife put their arms around each other and gather babies, "Oh, I thought you were gone, and now to think we are together again." You can just know if there have been only 425 dead, there have been a half million or a million marvelous cases where God kept people from a sudden death. God preserved them. God gave them food when they were hungry and there wasn't another way it seemed, God sent a boat when it seemed they would be drowned. He had a doctor then when the baby was born in a boat or a house top or on a train. Oh, my friends, it was the mercy of God!

In the flood, God took care of Noah. He said, "Noah, I give you warning, build you an ark." You are distressed, and fearful. You feel, sometimes, anxious about what will happen to you. You are fearful and anxious what will come tomorrow? I am not. I wouldn't be that way.

"Are you grieving over joys departed? Tell it to Jesus, tell it to Jesus."

My friends, I wonder if that is your case today?

"Are you anxious what will be tomorrow?"

Tell it to Jesus, alone."

Tell it to Jesus! Oh, I wish I could sing it to every refugee camped on the levee, or where people are huddled around a barn somewhere or in a school house. I wish I could go among them and say, "Your great Friend loves you. Look up to Him and be happy. If your clothes are wet, if your house did wash away, if business is ruined, God loves you. He will take care of you. He did with Noah and with the Children of Israel. I would like to go among the refugees, do you know what I would do? I would read in Isaiah the 43rd chapter where the Lord says,

"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." — Isaiah 43:2.

Wouldn't it be fine to say, "God is with you when you go through these waters. They shall not overflow you. God has His eye upon you. Wouldn't it be fine to go among them and hear them (there are many Christians, I am sure, thousands of Christians)—answer back and say, "I have had God closer than a brother. I have had His presence, heard Him say I know, that is from me. I will bring you through." When trouble comes your way that is the best thing that can happen to you many times. It brings you to know that God loves you. God will provide for them, as He did for Noah. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Oh, praise be to God that He loves His people and He takes care of them.

In Psalms 32:6 is this verse: "For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

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FLOODS --- DOES GOD CARE?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

great waters they shall not come nigh unto him." Would'n't that be good to a fellow if the Trinity River were out of banks and if he were out on the viaduct and it washed out at the ends and he were left stranded on that old concrete structure? Would'n't it be grand to turn over to Psalms 32:6 and read that? Or would'n't it be great if you had read the Bible through and learned that verse by heart? God says, "The floods of great waters, they shall not come nigh unto him." He will take care of you in the floods as He cared for Noah in the days of his flood and as He did for the Children of Israel.

Floods Picture the End of the Age And God's Judgment

Well, there is more, and now you listen. The flood back yonder was a lesson that the end of the age draws on. These floods are like that in this, Jesus said, "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." (Matt. 24:37-39). This world has no time for God. We don't have time to go to church. We see after business, we see our mother. We have got to read our papers, but we don't have time to read the Bible, don't have time to pray, don't have time to win our children to Christ. You don't have time to gather your children around and read the Bible at a family altar, as important a man as you are! You say, "I am busy." You are too busy to read the Bible. You are too busy to pray, to talk to God or talk about God to your friends. I remind you, one day, my friends, one day you will have plenty of time to remember you neglected your opportunity. "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." And that is just how it happened in the Mississippi Valley. They were too busy when they were warned they wouldn't listen. So it is. My friends, I warn you now, floods of iniquity are pouring in. In Cairo, it took soldiers to drive out the people. It was necessary to get the soldiers in a boat and go around with a bayonet and take them by force if need be to make them get out to be saved from the flood!

In the Galveston flood, people had warning, but they didn't get out. I warn you of the wrath of God, and you won't run to His mercy, and say, "I will be saved while I have a chance." "No," you say, "I am busy." So it was in the days of Noah. This flood indicates how it will be with eternal damnation. Today I say again and again, I warn you, you had better listen to the warning. *Be saved while you can! God's wrath is coming!* In the days of Noah they said, "Listen to that old man. He is a fundamentalist, isn't he? Say, he is crazy about religion, isn't he?" Days and years

passed, but, my friends, God sent a flood nevertheless, and too late they saw the door shut and they were outside. You had better make sure while you can. Make sure while you can!

Why Christ Tarries

One little matter here before I go. Why does not Jesus come? Turn to II Peter, the third chapter, verses 4 to 9.

"And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." (The scoffer doesn't believe Jesus is coming).

"For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 'Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water perished:'

"But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word (the word of God) are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."

"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

He is going to come. Jesus will, and He is bound to bring judgment. He will, and He is not slack. Why doesn't God bring judgment on Dallas? He is so tender hearted and merciful. He wanted the people in Dallas saved. The Lord knew somebody would preach on this in Dallas and the people would be warned and somebody saved before destruction comes here. God is tenderhearted and longsuffering, not willing that any should perish. "Not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." The next verse says,

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

My friends, judgment, judgment, JUDGMENT! That Mississippi flood is just a type of this. Sooner or later, God will pour out judgment on the whole earth, sooner or later. These things are just a beginning of what will happen to the whole world.

A group of men were gathered together a day or two ago and said one to another, "This world is out of joint. Things are unnatural, unreasonable. We never had floods like this, drouths like this, war like this, accidents like this, strikes like this, sickness like this—lewdness, nakedness, booze drinking. The world is getting worse so fast these are unnatural times. It must be toward the end. We must be toward the end!" They all agreed. A lot of preachers do not know anything is wrong with the world. The old wicked crowd on the outside do. They know something is happening. We are

now, I think, surely in "the beginning of sorrows," not yet to the great tribulation. In the beginning of sorrows we are warned what will come from the hand of God soon. Water will be turned to blood, war, fire, brimstone, hate murder, such violence in the world as we never had before. Oh, turn to Jesus while you can!

The Flood of Wrath Will Sweep Away the Refuge of Lies

One last word, my dear sinner friend, the flood of wrath and judgment is coming on you. There is just one way to escape and that is Jesus. There is just one. Let me read it to you here in Isaiah 28:

"Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem."

"Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves."

Down here in Dallas you think, "I have an understanding. We don't have a Mississippi River, we can't have a flood like the Mississippi. We don't have big enough rivers." Is that so? Can't have any in Dallas? God can't touch you in Dallas? You have agreement, you think, with Hell, a covenant with death. "I am young. I am strong. I am not going to die. I have a lot of time." But how do you know but that as you drive across the viaduct in a few minutes, some drunken driver will strike you and you may go out to meet God? How do you know? "Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge (the flood of God's wrath) shall pass through, it shall not come unto us; for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:

"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, (that is Jesus) a tried stone (that is Jesus), a precious corner stone (that is Jesus), a sure foundation he that believeth shall not make haste. (or not be ashamed, not have to run for his life if you have Jesus). Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet."

God says, "I will bring to judgment and I will be righteous about it. I will punish sin." Oh a flood is coming to Dallas worse than the Mississippi flood or the Ohio flood, a flood of the wrath of God!

"And the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place."

And you will find your covenant broken, your lying excuses swept away.

"And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it."

Oh, my friends, my friends, the judgment of the wrath of God will come like a mighty flood one of these days. There is just one thing to do. He said, "I lay in Zion a tried stone, a corner stone, Jesus." He is the refuge! I know! I know in whom I have put my trust. I know I have made my refuge in Him. Thank God, I can sing it.

"Other refuge have I none,

Hangs my helpless soul on thee."

Thank God, I have made Him my refuge and I am safe in Him. Noah was a simple man, wasn't he? He actually believed there was coming a flood and he built an ark. The ark was a type of Jesus Christ. If you take refuge in Him, you will be saved. Don't you want to run to Jesus tonight? The wrath of God is coming on you. You are lost. Do you doubt you are a sinner? Don't you know you have displeased God and fallen short? You have turned away from God. You haven't repented, and you will meet the judgment of God. The only safe way is to run to Jesus and find refuge.

Safety Under Burned Wings

A barn burned down, and as they

Stained With Blood!

"All who sell liquor in the common way, to any that will buy, are prisoners in general. They murder His Majesty's subjects by wholesale; neither does their eye pity or spare. They drive them to Hell like sheep. And what is their gain? Is it not the blood of these men? Who, then, would envy, their large estates and sumptuous palaces? A curse is in the midst of them. The curse of God is in their gardens, their groves—a fire that burns to the nethermost Hell. Blood, blood is there! The foundation, the floors, the walls, the roof, are stained with blood."

— John Wesley.

put out the fire finally and as they came to look through the old barn, down in a corner they came upon some blackened feathers and cooked meat, and turned it over. A mother hen had burned up, and when they turned her over, out came some little chickens. Her feathers were scorched and her body burned, and she died, but safe under her wings were the baby chicks!

Oh, the Lord Jesus Christ, like that mother hen. The Lord Jesus took all my sins on Him, suffered the wrath of God on the cross and died for me, and thank God, I am safe from the overflowing of the flood of the wrath of God!

I want you to pray for people down in the Mississippi Valley that if it pleases God he will withhold the flood and keep it within the levees until it runs down into the gulf, that there may be no more deaths. I hope that will please God. I don't know. I pray sometimes that this evidence that God is concerned, this evidence that God punishes sin, may awaken people, may arouse people to repent of sins and turn to God while they can. Those 425 whose bodies they found will have died not in vain if multitudes who know of it come face to face with God and death and eternity; if they repent while they can and be saved. Won't you do it tonight, sinner? Turn to Jesus tonight! Death is ahead of you. Hell is ahead of you! If you don't repent, eternal judgment and ruin are ahead of you. Turn to Jesus tonight while you can and be saved.

Oh, my friends, your refuge of excuses and lies will fail. You say you are not a Christian for this reason or that or the other. That will not do, brother. The hail shall beat down your refuge of lies. The flood of wrath will sweep away your hiding place. Don't make excuses. Just say, "I am a sinner, I will arise and go to my Father." Be saved while you can. Don't you want to do that tonight?

I am so glad I am saved. I am glad tonight as I lay my head on my pillow if some terrible flood waters arise around that house, I can go out to meet God, if need be, happy in His grace, my sins all forgiven, saved! I wouldn't be afraid of death. Get ready for death tonight. Turn to Jesus and be saved.

Oh, in this world you have your floods. Don't you want Jesus? He is the boat, the ark of safety, the refuge, the ark of safety. Won't you take Him tonight and be saved?

We need a revival here. We must tell people that Jesus loves them. We must tell them they are lost without Him. I hope tonight people are ready to trust Him and be saved. Will you say, "Tonight I will take Christ as my Saviour, my mother's Saviour?" Get ready for Heaven and death. Get ready for judgment, whatever comes. Don't you want Jesus tonight?

Just one word about how and I will close. That is this: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Can you say, "Lord, I will come?" Come on like you are. He will save you. In your heart look to Jesus, tell Him "I am a sinner." Tell Him, "I want forgiveness." Trust Him to forgive you. Risk it with Him. He will forgive you. Take Him tonight and be saved, and go home happy. Will you do that? I hope you will.

Now Is Your Chance

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

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